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Feb 25 2025

SC Court of Appeals

IN THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

In the Court of Appeals

APPEAL FROM SUMTER COUNTY

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

Kristi F. Curtis, Circuit Court Judge

CA No. 2023-000630

Jamar Stark and Tyla McNeill,

Appellants

vs.

Southern Touch Properties,

Respondents

PROOF OF SERVICE

I certified that I have served the Respondent's acting attorney with the Appellants Response to the Motion Opposing Request to Continue to Stay in the above referenced case on February 25, 2025 by certified mail to the following address:

Richard C. Jones

Jones Seth & Jones, LLP

Post Office Box 1268

Sumter SC 29151-1268

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RETRUN FOR MOTION OPPOSING APPELLANT'S REQUEST
TO CONTINUE TO STAY

Dear Honorable Judge

I am writing to respectfully provide further explanation regarding my missed bond payment and to clarify the circumstances that led to my inability to make the payment on time. As an employee of a bank, my work schedule is strictly regulated, and I am only permitted to leave early to pay my bond on the 5th of each month unless the 5th falls on a weekend, in which case my employer allows me to leave one hour early on the closest business day.

Unfortunately, on the night before my scheduled payment, my newborn became ill. When I contacted the on-call nurse for medical guidance, I was advised that if his fever did not subside, I should bring him in for immediate medical attention.

Given that my newborn has had ongoing medical complications since birth, I was compelled to follow this professional medical advice to protect his health and well-being. Under **S.C. Code Ann. § 63-7-20**, South Carolina law defines child neglect to include the failure to provide adequate health care despite having the means to do so or placing a child at substantial risk of harm by not seeking necessary medical treatment. As a parent, I have a legal and moral obligation to ensure my child receives the necessary medical attention, particularly in light of his pre-existing health conditions. Had I failed to seek care when advised to do so, I could have been in violation of my parental responsibilities under South Carolina law.

As I have previously mentioned, I made every attempt to seek assistance with the payment over the phone at Sumter Summary Court and was denied the option. I also requested to speak with a Judge on duty and was advised there was no one available to speak with me, and to come in the following morning to make the payment.

I sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused the court. I did not intend to neglect my financial obligations, and in good faith the payment was made on February 6, 2025 at 8:30 am, in Sumter Summary Court.

I appreciate your time and consideration of these circumstances and respectfully request your understanding in this matter. Please let me know if further information is required.

Sincerely,

Tyla McNeill

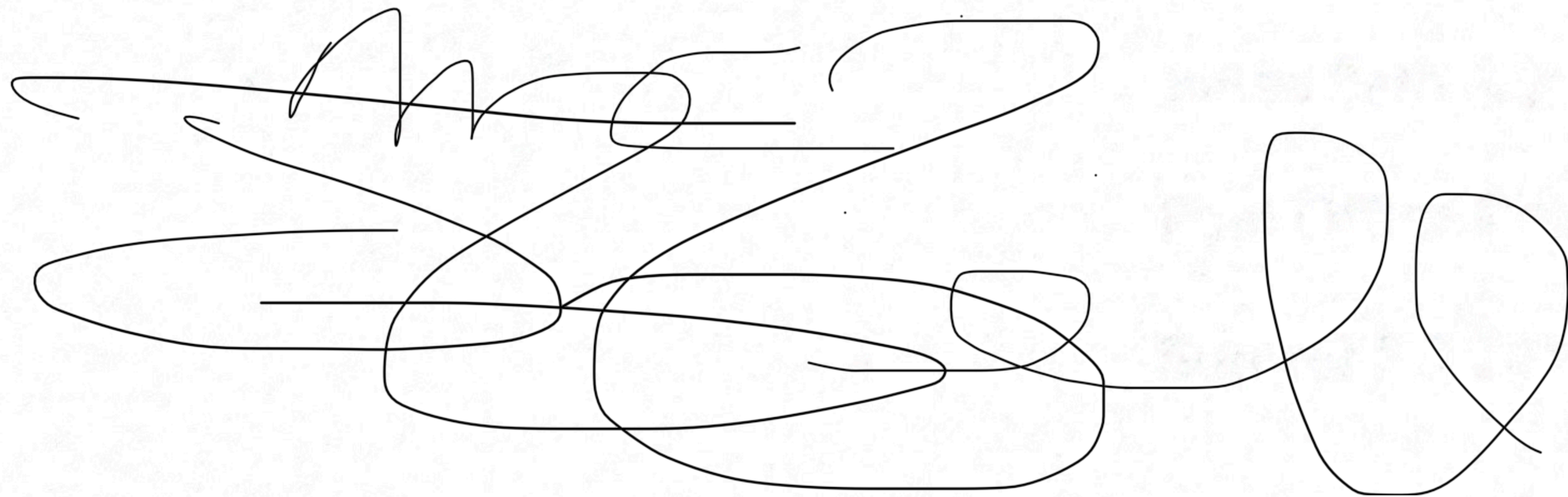
Jamar Stark

6195 Fish Rd

Dalzell, SC 29040

February 25, 2025

Appellant

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Tyla McNeill', written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat cursive.

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PROOF OF SERVICE

I certified that I have served the Respondent's acting attorney with the Appellants response to the Respondents Motion for Extension of Time to File Final Brief in the above referenced case on February 25, 2025 by certified mail to the following address:

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CA No. 2023-000630

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Appellants

vs.

Southern Touch Properties,

Respondents

APPELLANTS RETURN TO RESPONDENTS MOTION FOR EXTENSION OF
TIME TO FILE FINAL BRIEF

Dear Honorable Judge,

I respectfully submit this letter in opposition to the respondent's request for an additional 30 days to submit their final brief. This request is unwarranted and undermines the procedural integrity of the court's timeline. The respondent previously dismissed their counsel, which raises concerns regarding their commitment to complying with the court's deadlines and processes. It is essential that all parties adhere to the court's schedule to ensure a fair and efficient judicial process.

The respondent's failure to meet prior deadlines demonstrates a lack of diligence, and their request for an extension will provide the respondents with an unfair advantage, as they have chosen to delay their submission beyond the original deadline without just cause. The respondents had ample time to seek council, prepare, and file their brief in accordance with the established schedule. Their decision to seek additional

time now, after the deadline has far surpassed, undermines the principles of fairness and justice our legal system upholds.

Granting this extension would unfairly prejudice the opposing party, who has diligently complied with all court orders and time frames. Moreover, permitting additional delays would set a concerning precedent that disregards the importance of procedural deadlines. The respondent's decisions should not serve as a basis to prolong this matter unnecessarily.

For these reasons, I respectfully request that the court deny the respondent's request for an extension and uphold the original briefing schedule.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Tyla McNeill

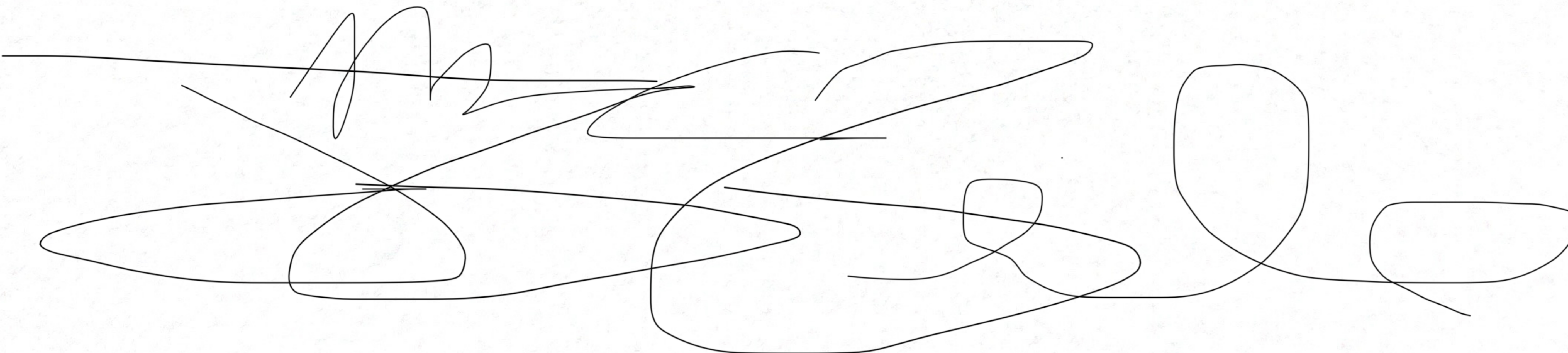
Jamar Stark

6195 Fish Rd

Dalzell, SC 29040

February 25, 2025

Appellant

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several overlapping loops and flourishes, extending across the width of the page.